A PACKET-SWITCHED MULTIPLE-ACCESS NETWORK SYSTEM WITH DISTRIBUTED FAIR PRIORITY QUEUING

John T. Holloway

5   Jason Trachewsky

Henry Ptasinski

ABSTRACT

A packet-switched multiple-access network system with a distributed fair priority

10   queuing media access control protocol that provides multiple levels of priority of access and

fair collision resolution with improved performance is disclosed. In one embodiment, the

system provides high-speed transport of multimedia information on a shared channel.

Further, in one embodiment, MAC level side-band signaling that is useful to other levels of

the network protocol (e.g., the physical layer) is also provided.

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